

<b>Meeting</b>	Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council
<b>Date</b>	Thursday, July 15, 2021 Quorum: 5:32pm Adjourn: 6:43pm
<b>Location</b>	Remote
<b>Chairperson</b>	Mayor Gary Bassett, Village of Rhinebeck
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Supervisor Jay Baisley, Town of Poughkeepsie
<b>Secretary</b>	Deputy Supervisor Neil Krupnick, Town of Hyde Park
<b>In Attendance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Gary Bassett, Mayor (VoR)</li> <li>● Neil Krupnick, Deputy Supervisor (ToHP)</li> <li>● Jay Baisley, Town Supervisor (ToP)</li> <li>● Randy Alstadt, WWTP Operator/Technical Advisor (CoP)</li> <li>● Paul Malmrose (Technical Advisor, Engineering)</li> <li>● Emily Svenson (Technical Advisor, Land Use)</li> <li>● Brad Barclay, Dutchess County Representative</li> <li>● Europa McGovern, Ulster County Representative</li> <li>● Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper (Coordinator)</li> </ul>

### Regular Business

1. Call To Order 5:32pm
2. Roll Call & Quorum Determination.
  - a. **Voting members: Gary Bassett (VoR), Neil Krupnick (ToHP), Jay Baisley (ToP), Randy Alstadt (CoP). *Baisley and Alstadt joined late.***  
**Four voting members (quorum)**
3. Approval of minutes
  - a. **Motion to approve 5/20/21 Bassett/Baisley. Motion carried.**
4. County representative report
  - a. Ulster County, Europa McGovern: Europa has been in touch with Emily Vail from the Hudson River Watershed Alliance (HRWA) about completing a resilience building workshop in Esopus and Lloyd that will include a community mapping process. The workshops will be complete in Dutchess shortly, too. The Nature Conservancy and

HRWA will lead the sessions. Neil Krupnick said that the Town of Hyde Park will participate in late October. Ulster County (Dutchess County, too) has applied for a Natural Resource Inventory grant through the HRWA. The two counties hope to work together rather than compete. Ulster County plans on doing the GIS in house. If both are provided the opportunity, it would get them started on the DWSP2 for the Hudson 7 communities.

- b. Dutchess County, Brad Barclay: Dutchess county is working on ARP money to build a new community center at the YMCA in Poughkeepsie. The county is increasing grants for municipalities. As for Fallkill, there isn't an update on testing though funding via the legislature was approved to repair the Fallkill dam. Questions have been raised about how to approach the dam and the contamination in Fallkill lake. Conversations continue. The county is aware that the Hudson 7 will establish a committee with DWSP2 and counties have discussed how they can be supportive.

#### 5. Public Comment

- a. None.

#### Reports and Actions on Old Business

##### 1. Hudson 7 Priorities for 2021-2022

- a. Funding options for coordinator
  - i. The council approved creating an ad-hoc committee to discuss funding options for a coordinator. Gary Bassett postponed the selection until more members of the council were present.
- b. NYS Drinking Water Source Protection Program
  - i. The council had approved creating a committee for the DWSP2. At the last meeting, Dan had suggested inviting (of Tighe & Bond) to participate since she had helped Hudson 7 prepare the grant application. Gary Bassett postponed the selection until more members of the council were present. Bassett asked the counties to circle back on ways that they would like to participate. Brad Barclay said that once the scope of work is known from the consultants, the counties can identify tasks that would be of value.

## 2. Hudson River Drinking Water Source Issues

- a. Update on Central Hudson MGP remediation: Mark McLean (Senior Director – Environmental Affairs), Eric Chastain (Environmental Coordinator & Project Manager) and John Maserjian and/or Joe Jenkins (Corporate Communications)
  - i. Mark introduced the team and Eric Chastain who is a new project manager on this project. EC: Two years on the Hudson River, but 20 in the Hudson Valley as an engineer. In the past year, he's been working on the pilot dredge test. Completed during the 3rd and 4th quarter last year, to determine feasibility. It showed that it is not a practical remediation at this site, therefore they are regrouping. There will be no in-water remediation work planned in 2021. Working with the DEC to go through the alternatives. Upland remediation work in June of this year of the shallow excavation (2 feet) on-shore material. With that done, the upland portion of the remediation is complete for the entire site. During the fall work window, we may do some sampling, or non-remediation pilot testing, but nothing has been set yet.
  - ii. RA asked what alternatives Central Hudson was looking at. Eric said that nothing is set yet. They are talking to DEC. EC said that some options have removal and capping components. Alternatives that will not include intrusive work. Whatever they come up with, they will be shared with the Hudson 7 and seek the council's input. RA said that during the summer, they did water samples near the intake and will share that information when they have it.
  - iii. GB asked for a timetable. MM said that they don't have a timeline yet, as they are back to the drawing board. They would like to do the river remediation next season (September, 2022). Depending on the approach, they can begin to plan. As it pertains to the hydraulic method, it would have taken more than a dozen years. They found out it was slow, and dredged up a lot of debris and wasn't an acceptable approach. Capping will be revisited. Capping is already included with the slope side capped. The gas line is intended to be capped. They are not

sure if they should extend the cap or consider a more targeted remediation to assure that they protect the drinking water intakes. RA said that Dr. Chant could help them and can be hired. An offer to call was made.

- iv. PM: Any coordination with the firms intent on laying cables in the river? CHPE, Rise? MM said he passed along the information, but Central Hudson has not coordinated with them. It's on Central Hudson's radar, though not Mark's radar. Randy said they were going to cut around their site, and not go near it.
- v. BB: It would be good if CH was having trouble with hydro drilling to let CHPE know because they are going to face some of the same debris problems and should be forewarned. RA: If you're having a problem with debris down at the bottom of the river, it might show that they can't do that. It would be great to open communications. MM: Debris was close to the shoreline. Back in the day, it wasn't uncommon to find materials. BB: They are trying to stay fairly shallow, and they will find the same debris if they aren't ready for it. RA: What have you found? It would be good for us to share with them. EC: Wire, cables, bricks, larger block, cobbles, wood, etc. **RA asked for that information to forward on to CHPE.**

- b. Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) committee report
  - i. Emily Svenson is now the chair of the committee. They have met to discuss their role and the assistance that would be needed, and what recommendations to make as a council. Met with two potential attorney's pro-bono, one of whom was John Lyons of Grant and Lyons and his associate Kim who they would like to bring on board. BB said that they were an excellent firm having worked with them on a series of issues.
    - 1. Motion that Grant and Lyons to represent the Hudson 7 (pro bono) as it pertains to the CHPE proposal. Bassett/Alstadt. Motion carried.**
  - ii. Hudson 7 received a letter from Jen White at TDI. She expressed interest in answering the questions we raised, and working further to engage the Hudson 7 for their construction

plan and testing protocol. Asking them for more info to review with Lyons. The letter would emphasize pilot testing.

**1. Motion for the committee draft and send a letter to Jen White asking for more information for review.**

**Bassett/Krupnick. Motion carried.**

- iii. The committee discussed that we recommend to the Hudson 7 municipalities to speak with their drinking water operators that the Hudson 7 should be involved with all communications for CHPE/TDI in order to best coordinate. The group suggests that it extends to other cable projects as well, including RISE where there is a new review process and good for us to get in early. JB: Disagrees. Their town board wants to meet on their own and does not want to coordinate with Hudson 7. ES: Projects going through the river (not the town) where it impacts drinking water intakes. PoK has sophisticated management of their system that others don't have. They may not have the expertise that PoK has. Better support to the town by coordinating. JB: We are on the same page, but we will keep the Hudson 7 well informed. PM: Doesn't see any problem with meeting with municipalities and the Hudson 7. However, CHPE sent out letters to the individual drinking water operators asking where their intakes were. It was a FOIL request, so they provided that information but didn't know that CHPE was planning to come 200 feet from their drinking water intake, or how or the impacts. GB: Doesn't want to be overrun by TDI. PM: We talked about sending a letter to the Governor and Mayor of NYC but John didn't think that was a good idea. He recommended outreach to DEC. ES: Thinks the committee should discuss who they wanted to outreach to and make a recommendation. BB: Would be good **RA: If any of the Hudson 7 municipalities get an outreach from a cable company to discuss any work in the river, they should notify the Hudson 7.**
- c. Esopus Creek turbid discharges (committee report)
- i. PM: Two months of work with NGOs, and it was clear that the engineering aspect was little known to the scientists. Engineer's

are concerned to work on this problem fearing the DEP will take away/not give them any work. No other engineering firm by Tighe and Bond has been willing to push back on the DEP. A letter that was approved on June 4 by the Hudson 7, focused on turbidity, TOC and harmful Algal blooms. NYC doesn't monitor TOC and has little data on algae blooms. Why is the DEP allowed to dump alum into a NYC reservoir? If Randy did that in the Hudson River he'd be put in jail.

- ii. Paul was invited to attend the ARWG. DEP didn't want the Hudson 7 there and didn't feel they should be represented. He asked why they were allowed to use Alum and they stopped the meeting. GB: We have all tried to get us a seat at the table and failed. Baffled as to why they wouldn't want us to at least participate. RA: Great to share whatever you can. You're an advocate, and that is what this group is all about. I think you need to keep going.

**1. Motion for Paul Malmrose to represent the Hudson 7 during ARWG meetings to bring information back to council. Bassett/Alstadt. Motion carried.**

## **New Business**

1. Rise Power and Light (Catskill Connector Project)
  - a. GB: Rise has reached out to municipalities. We need to coordinate at this early stage. RA: PWTF hasn't been contacted yet. Randy thinks it would be good for the Hudson 7 to reach out to them and introduce ourselves. Gary will reach out to Rise to get them on the agenda. Rebecca to share information with Brad.
2. City of Kingston letter of support request for CFA/wastewater treatment upgrades grant
  - a. Ruth Ann Devitt-Frank with a request to provide a letter of support for the City of Kingston's 2021 CFA grant funding application to upgrade their sewer treatment plant. It is time sensitive.
    - i. **Motion to approve request from CoK to approve letter of support in lieu of finding the previous Hudson 7 policy on sign-on letters for municipalities associated with the Hudson 7. Bassett/Alstadt. Motion carried.**

### 3. Future meetings

- a. RA said that the room at the PWTF had UV hepa filters, and other safeguards. RM said that recording meetings are good to have for the public and for the record. RA: Until we get better internet, we can't do both. GB: We need to follow open meetings law. Haven't found a way to satisfy the requirements and record. BB: Voting members can be joined by any member of the public in a public location. It's cumbersome to do it that way. RA: The ToP has good internet and hosting. PA: suggested looking into Tighe and Bond.

**i. Motion that August meeting be in person at the PWTF.**

**Bassett/Alstadt. Motion carried.**

Adjournment: 6:43pm

**Bassett/Carlos. Motion carried**